

information

Chemical Warfare Materiel Clean Up:

Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project Participants

In 1991, Congress directed the Department of Defense (DoD) to destroy chemical warfare materiel (CWM) that is not part of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. The U.S. Army Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization (PMCD) — instituted as DoD's executive agent for demilitarization of all U.S. chemical warfarerelated materiel — subsequently created the Office of the Product Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel to carry out this effort. Projects under the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) are congressionally mandated to dispose of CWM in a safe, environmentally sound, and costeffective manner. NSCMP is the DoD umbrella organization that is responsible for the destruction of non-stockpile CWM on military installations or Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS).

The primary function of NSCMP in a site cleanup is to plan, manage and execute the destruction of CWM. This includes providing assistance in remediation and plan development, and ensuring coordination across all levels throughout the process. NSCMP coordinates the handling, interim storage, transport to permitted DoD installations, and ultimate disposal of CWM.

The remediation team includes other federal organizations whose roles range from ultimate site management and remediation responsibility to the physical removal of CWM. The ultimate disposal of non-stockpile CWM is a team effort and every player has specific integrated roles and responsibilities.

Key participants in an NSCM project include: active installation commanders, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) installation commanders, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the U.S. Army Chemical and Biological Defense Command (CBDCOM), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and PMCD.

Program management, which includes ultimate responsibility for site cleanup, falls to the military organization that has direct control over the site. At Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, and Defense Logistics Agency installations, the base commander takes program management responsibility for site cleanup. The USACE district commander assumes program management responsibility at a FUDS — a land area that was under the jurisdiction of DoD, but is now either privately owned or under the jurisdiction of another agency. The overall project management responsibility includes providing for site investigation, security, and ultimate site restoration.

CBDCOM provides DoD and other federal agencies with expertise in chemical and biological responses. CBDCOM's Technical Escort Unit (TEU) — a rapid hazardous material response team — operates in support of NSCM projects to provide the physical recovery, packaging, transportation, and monitoring of CWM. When requested by NSCMP, TEU may be asked to provide emergency removal, storage, and destruction support to the designated site product manager.

By law, DHHS participates in every NSCM project. This organization is the principal U.S. government agency responsible for protecting the health of all Americans. NSCMP ensures that DHHS is notified and concurs with each DoD plan for CWM transport and disposal. On a case-by-case basis, the Environmental Protection Agency and state or local environmental agencies and organizations may be notified as well.

The remediation team works together on every project to ensure that the utmost precautions are in place to maintain public health and safety. Every team member has a particular role that is integrated to achieve the ultimate goal: safe CWM disposal.

For more information, contact the Public Outreach and Information Office of the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization at 1, 800,488,0648